Modified Alternative ARUSD School Consolidation Proposal

In recognition of declining enrollment and the exhaustion of one-time funds at the end of the 2025-26 fiscal year, the Board of Trustees of the Alum Rock Union Elementary School District understands the need to reduce expenses. To help rectify the structural deficit the district faces, it has become necessary to consolidate school sites. At the same time, as the District seeks to manage budgetary pressures, there is also the need to do so in the least disruptive manner and preserve existing amenities for educational and community uses.

Using the framework of Supt. Cerda's initial proposal, I propose an alternative that incorporates portions of the school consolidation committee's recommendations and portions of the administration's recommendations, but with changes to preserve amenities and protecting our most vulnerable students. Figures used provided by Assistant Supt. of Business Services Teresa DeCelles and used to amend my initial proposal.

School Open but with Administrative Restructure

1. Linda Vista
   (Savings: $200,000)
   - Linda Vista remains open, but assistant principal position eliminated.

Schools Recommended for Consolidation (Not Closure):

1. LUCHA Academy (consolidated with San Antonio with conditions).
   (Savings $711,925)
   - LUCHA is adjacent to San Antonio and consolidation retains program in same general location.
   - LUCHA retains CDE number and maintains shares principal and administrative assistant with San Antonio. Teachers in LUCHA would remain a separate unit from San Antonio teachers.

2. Painter Elementary (consolidation with Sheppard Middle w/ conditions).
   (Savings: $601,382)
   - Retain on Painter site the Administrative/Health Office Suite, bathrooms, playground access for all Vietnamese Dual-Language elementary grades, and sufficient classrooms to accommodate all those enrolled in the Vietnamese Dual-Language Program at grades TK-2.
   - Must retain Painter CDE number and separate community liaison. Painter shares administrative assistant with Sheppard, and Painter teachers remains a separate unit from Sheppard teachers.
   - Must provide adequate separation for grades 3-5 using space in Sheppard.

- Painter retains existing separate marquee for Vietnamese Dual-Language elementary business.

- Standard English Program students may enroll at McCollam or Russo-McEntee. Students in English Program grades TK-1 to be offered option to enroll in Vietnamese Immersion and remain at Painter.

Schools Recommended for Closure

1. Cassell Elementary
   (Savings: $932,148)
   - Students merged to attend restructured TK-5 Aptitud (0.7 miles).
   - Aptitud has received additional portables which can accommodate increased population and retains Wellness Center for student use.
   - Aptitud is also adjacent to Capitol Park, and would allow students access to it.

2. Cureton Elementary
   (Savings: $856,037)
   - Students merged to attend Lyndale Elementary (1 mile).
   - Preserves Lyndale as a second VAPA school and preserves specialized facilities for special education programs.

3. Meyer Elementary
   (Savings: $902,139)
   - Students merged to attend Ryan Elementary (1.8 miles).

4. Dorsa Elementary
   (Savings: $909,265)
   - Students merged to attend restructured TK-5 Hubbard Media Arts Academy (1.1 miles).
   - Hubbard has expanded facilities and has capacity for more students.
   - Hubbard also has additional amenities such as the Verizon Innovative Lab and soccer pitch.

5. George Middle
   (Savings: $1,347,656)
   - Students have choice to attend Sheppard or Renaissance-Mathson.
   - VAPA program moves to and re-centers out of Sheppard.

Schools Recommended for Redesign

1. Aptitud Academy at Goss-redesigned to TK-5
   (Savings: approximately $200,000)
   - Receives TK-5 from Cassell
   - Grades 6-8 merge with Ocala Middle (1.4 miles)
   - Assistant Principal's position eliminated.
   - Preserves the existing Wellness Center and larger facilities at Aptitud.
   - Retains school access to adjacent Capitol Park.

2. Hubbard Media Arts Academy-redesigned to TK-5
   (Savings: approximately $200,000)
   - Receives TK-5 from Dorsa
   - Has capacity to receive entirety of Dorsa with existing larger facility and can preserve Piano Lab from Dorsa intact.
   - Grade 6-8 merges with Ocala Middle (1.7 miles).
   - Assistant Principal's position eliminated.

3. Chavez Early Learning Center-redesigned to 0-Preschool
   (Savings: $500,619)
   - Preserves current ARUSD partnership with Kidango.
   - TK and K merge with San Antonio.

Schools Recommended for Consolidation, Reorganization, and Relocation

1. Adelante I and Adelante II Spanish Dual-Language Academies consolidate as a single Adelante Academy and relocates to the former Renaissance-Fischer school site.
   (Savings: $2,463,859) [Adelante I Savings: $ 1,250,557 plus Adelante II Savings: $ 1,213,302]
   - Both Adelante I and II have a common history at Adelante I site and retains TK-8 model.
   - Preserves the Verizon Lab, athletic field, locker rooms, science lab classroom, soccer pitch, modernized music room, and larger cafeteria/stage facilities.
   - Provides improved facilities for middle grades with room for growth through recruitment as a program of choice.
   - Maintains school access to adjacent Reid-Hillview Branch Library.
   - Moves Adelante I (1.5 miles) and Adelante II (1.2 miles) to a site that is at the midpoint of both existing sites.
   - When not in use by Adelante, the athletic field, Verizon Lab, science lab classroom, cafeteria/stage facility, and music room should be made available for use by other ARUSD schools on a reservation basis.

- If needed, TK and K classes could be temporarily located at already operating Ryan Elementary for a one-year transitional period in the 2025-2026 school year.

2. Renaissance-Fischer Academy
   {Disputed Savings: $1,420,421}
   - Renaissance-Fischer consolidates into and relocates to Renaissance-Mathson and both Renaissance-Fischer and Renaissance-Mathson are reorganized into one united Renaissance Academy (2.1 miles).
   - Students opting not to continue with Renaissance model may choose to attend Ocala.

Guaranteed Access to Special Education at all ARUSD Schools

- Unless student's placement requires a move to another district school or out-of-district placement, all ARUSD schools sites are to provide access to special education classes for enrolled students. In addition, ARUSD reaffirms its commitment to provide for appropriate opportunities for mainstreaming at all ARUSD school sites per existing laws and the student's IEP.

Net Savings

Using the disputed savings from Renaissance-Fischer of $1,420,421 and baseline figures, this proposal can potentially produce an upfront savings of approximately $11,245,451. This is possibly an additional upfront savings of approximately $1,559,480 from the administration's proposal. ***Even solely using baseline figures from the administration, this produces $9,825,030 in upfront savings, which still exceeds the administration's savings by $159,031.*** Moreover, the modified alternative proposal protects special programs; amenities that are unlikely to be timely replaced in the medium-term, and ensure quality facilities for special education.

Proposed 2025-2026 Active ARUSD Schools (Estimated enrollments based on administration's figures)

TK-5 Elementary:

1. Linda Vista (447) (administrative restructure with reduction of 1 assistant principal)
2. McCollam (569)
3. Russo McEntee (328) (serving both the general population and as a program of choice)
4. San Antonio (329, excluding co-located LUCHA)
5. LUCHA (218, co-located at San Antonio)
6. Lyndale (528, retains SPED Autism)
7. Aptitud (505)
8. Hubbard (571)
9. Ryan (545) (option to co-locate Adelante I and II TK and K for 2025-26 if needed)
10. Painter (168, co-located with Sheppard Middle with space on Painter site for TK-2 classes, playground, bathrooms, and separate administration/health suite) (maintains appropriate separation from Sheppard due to being an elementary school)

6-8 Middle Schools:

1. Sheppard (838, excluding co-located Painter Elementary)(retains PBL and Tech program, and takes in VAPA from George)
2. Renaissance at Mathson (676) (Renaissance-Fischer consolidates and relocates into Mathson site and both reorganized as united Renaissance Academy)
3. Ocala (683) (retains STEAM program)

TK-8 Spanish Dual-Immersion School:

1. Adelante Academy (876, consolidation of Adelante I and II, relocation to former Fischer site)

Early Learning Center

1. Cesar Chavez Early Learning Center (operated by Kidango)

Classroom Counts and Capacity with Repair Costs - Trustee Minh Pham's Modified Plan

Recommendation	School	Grades	Net Classroom (CR) Count*	Net CR Capacity (Based on staffing ratio)*	Immediate Repair Needs**	2-20 Deferred Maintenance Needs**	Savings	Current Enrollment	Enrollment Capacity Available	% Utilization	Cost Savings per Student	Savings per Minh Pham
Open	Lyndale	TK-5	31	756	107,800	8,570,400	992,570	274	482	36%	3,622.52	
Open	McCollam	TK-5	28	635	25,800	7,981,500	951,777	376	259	59%	2,531.32	
Open	Russo McEntee	TK-5	34	770	70,500	11,265,100	995,739	327	443	42%	3,045.07	
Open	Ryan	TK-5	23	570	50,900	5,863,000	797,854	246	324	43%	3,243.31	(option to co-locate Adelante TK and K for 1 year)
Open	San Antonio	TK-5	22	550	13,600	5,259,500	992,020	326	224	59%	3,043.01	
Open	Ocala	6-8	32	950	292,600	7,468,700	1,367,294	381	569	40%	3,588.70	
Open	Renaissance at Mathson	6-8	37	1,105	434,900	11,582,000	1,261,792	327	778	30%	3,858.69	(RAF consolidated in RAM and reorganized as united Renaissance Academy)
Open	Sheppard	6-8	35	1,064	37,100	12,683,400	1,390,222	455	609	43%	3,055.43	
					1,033,200							
Schools Recommended for Closure/Consolidation/Redesign/Adm. Reduction												
Closure	Cassell	TK-5	29	671	10,200	7,696,900	932,148	283	388	42%	3,293.81	
Closure	Cureton	TK-5	32	773	598,000	8,282,300	856,037	254	519	33%	3,370.22	
Closure	Dorsa	TK-5	28	684	24,100	9,106,600	909,265	288	396	42%	3,157.17	
Closure	Meyer	TK-5	30	719	69,200	7,517,700	902,139	248	471	34%	3,637.66	
Closure	George	6-8	29	899	286,200	9,304,100	1,347,656	383	516	43%	3,518.68	
Will house Adelante I & II	Renaissance at Fischer	6-8	42	1,239	115,100	13,870,200		349	890	28%	-	No savings from consolidating/relocating RAF since the site will house Adelante I and II
Relocate to Ren@Fischer	Adelante I	TK-8	21	570	314,500	7,033,300	1,250,557	506	64	89%	2,471.46	
Relocate to Ren@Fischer	Adelante II	TK-8	24	647	44,500	5,879,200	1,213,302	370	277	57%	3,279.19	
TK-5	Aptitud	TK-8	23	624	41,400	8,248,400	200,000	383	241	61%	522.19	Savings due to reduction of Assistant Principal
TK-5	Hubbard	TK-8	37	1,001	141,700	8,797,800	200,000	428	573	43%	467.29	Savings due to reduction of Assistant Principal
Consolidation	LUCHA	TK-5	13	345	98,500	4,582,400	711,925	221	124	64%	3,221.38	
Consolidation	Painter	TK-5	27	686	9,300	5,970,300	601,382	361	325	53%	1,665.88	Painter would have a separate Community Liaison, Health Assistant and Custodian, this results in $300,000 less in savings
Redesign	Chavez	TK-K			13,700	10,374,400	500,619	59			8,485.07	
Open w/Adm. Restructure	Linda Vista	TK-5	34	836	1,011,000	9,554,500	200,000	443	393	53%	451.47	(Savings due to reduction of Assistant Principal)
						Total Savings	9,825,030					
Consolidate into RAM	Ren at Fischer	6th-8th				Disputed Savings	$1,420,421					
						Potential Total Savings	*11,245,451*					